

Day One

Sunday, June 3

Arrival and Hotel Transfer
(Airport Transfer)

Welcome to Israel

Welcome to the Holy Land! A representative of the tour company will meet you as you disembark from the plane and streamline your visa and customs processing. We will be met by Daniel Gutman, who will provide us with water bottles and a comfortable full size coach bus which will bring you to your hotel. We will go straight to the hotel in Tel Aviv, to unpack and have dinner.

Evening Old City of Jaffa - Optional

Tradition tells us that Jaffa, or *Yafo* as it's called in Hebrew, was founded by *Yefet* the Son of Noah many, many years ago. Throughout history it's known as one of the most famous Middle Eastern ports and the one from which Jonah set forth on his famous voyage. Today its artists colony, alleyways, and views sets it apart as one of the most beautiful places in Tel Aviv. It's for this very reason that one can spot brides and grooms having their photoshoots on almost everyday of the week in Yafo. The highlight of course will be seeing the traditional home of Simon the Tanner who hosted Peter in Jaffa when he came to resurrect Tabitha.

Sleep Tel Aviv

Day Two

Tuesday, June 4 - Mediterranean Coast & Galilee
(Private Guide & Full Size Bus)

Caesarea

This picturesque 2,000 year old port city was a dream of King Herod. The Caesarea port was an unparalleled feat of engineering and instrumental in solidifying trade agreements with the Roman Empire. It was at the time, one of the largest cities in the Roman Empire and the capital of Rome in Israel. Caesarea played an important role in early Christian history, being both the seat of the early church fathers as well as the baptism of Cornelius the centurion and being the port and later prison of Paul. Once a symbol of Roman power, today Caesarea is a testament to the eventual victory of the Jews over Rome.

Nazareth - Church of the Annunciation

Nazareth was just a sleepy little town 2,000 years ago, but today is known around the world as the hometown of Jesus. At the center of Nazareth is the Basilica of the Annunciation built over the traditional home of Mary. It is here where tradition says the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she will give birth to a son that will change the world. For centuries pilgrims and seekers alike have come to pray in this spot and to seek out the spirit.

Kfar Kanna - The Wedding Church

It was in this very spot that Jesus performed one of his most well-known miracles. While attending the wedding of an impoverished couple he turned the water in the celebrants' cups to wine, bringing joy to the

festivity as well as revealing himself to the world as well as being the first of the *seven signs*. To this day the residents of *Kfar Kana* produce wine used at festivities and weddings alike!

Mount Precipice

Just south of Nazareth in the cliffs of Mt Kedumim is Mount Precipice, the site of the cliff that an angry mob attempted to throw Jesus off of after his bold proclamation in the Nazareth synagogue. We will soak up this majestic site as well as meditate on our own acceptance of the Lord.

Sleep Kibbutz Lavi

Day Three

Tuesday June 5 - Sea of Galilee
(Private Guide & Full Size Bus)

Capernaum

At this major crossroads of the ancient world, on the Northern banks of the Sea of Galilee, sits one of the most famous villages in the world - Capernaum. In the Christian Bible it's the most mentioned town besides Jerusalem, and is even described as Jesus's town! We will see the Byzantine era synagogue built directly on top of a 2,000 year old synagogue, the one in which Jesus preached. Perhaps the most amazing site is the modern day church built on the remains of two ancient churches, which were built directly over a 2,000 year old house.... Many scholars believe that this home is none other than the house of Simon Peter, where Jesus lived in Capernaum.

Mount of Beatitudes

In this natural amphitheater overlooking the Galilee was the site of one of the most famous sermons ever given...the Sermon on the Mount. The philosophical messages transmitted in the Sermon of the Mount provide the theological underpinnings of Christianity and have shaped the ethics of Western Civilization as a whole. We will take in an inspiring view of the Sea of Galilee and have a chance to meditate on the overall majesty of this land.

Jesus Boat and Lunch

In 1986 at the peak of a severe drought which receded the shoreline of the Sea of Galilee an amazing thing emerged from the mud, a 2,000 year old fishing boat from the time of Jesus! It was miraculously intact and was meticulously restored. The bible comes alive as we see a boat that Jesus or his disciples could have sailed on.

Magdala

Magdala is a 2,000 year old fishing village which was the hometown of Mary Magdalene, an enigmatic woman revered by Christians worldwide. Not only was she one of the few people mentioned in the gospels as being present at the crucifixion, she was also the first recorded witness of his resurrection. These newly excavated ruins show the remains of this vibrant city on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Not only do we find the remains of a bustling industrial zone, we will also see one of the oldest excavated Synagogues in the world...perhaps where Jesus himself preached.

Dinner and Boat Ride

After a long day of touring we will take in the sunset sailing on the Sea of Galilee. We will follow this with a meat dinner of local fare in Tiberias.

Sleep Kibbutz Lavi

Day Four

Wednesday June 6 - Golan Heights
(Private Guide & Full Size Bus)

Banias - Caesarea Philippi

Amongst the flowing streams of the Hermon mountains seekers have come from time immemorial to find G-d here in nature. The Greeks and Romans had Temples here and it was at the crossroads of the city that Peter is designated to be the foundation of the Church.

Tel Dan - the Biblical City of Dan

Surrounded by running streams bursting forth from one of the Middle East's largest underground springs, we will visit the northern border of the Kingdom of Israel. Here was the royal city of Jeroboam, where he built a walled city, a Temple complex complete with a golden calf, all of which have been discovered in the excavations (except for the golden calf.) The 3,000 year old city walls and 3,800 year old city gate has led UNESCO to deem Tel Dan a "World Heritage Site". We will stroll through this picturesque national park and touch the biblical history buried beneath.

Group Lunch at *Dag al HaDan* Restaurant

Set in the pastoral region of Caesarea Philippi and Dan and surrounded by streams and waterfalls, we will enjoy a group lunch at the famous *Dag Al HaDan* fish restaurant. As we dine on fish fresh from the Sea of Galilee, we will feel like apostles and Psalm 104 will come alive.

Har Bental Viewpoint and Bunkers

We will climb up a dormant volcano to a height of 1,260 feet above sea level to take in a breathtaking 360 degree view of the Golan Heights. From this former Israeli defensive position we can look down into Syria and on a clear day even see the approaches to Damascus only 45 miles away. We can also climb through the decommissioned bunker and trenches of the IDF.

Golan Heights Winery & Wine Tasting

Just over 30 years ago a revolution took place in Israel... a wine revolution! Although Israel was famous in the ancient world for its extraordinary wines, the trade seemed to die with the withering of the Land of Israel throughout the long Jewish exile. Today Israel exports nearly 30 million dollars worth of wine and has been winning awards throughout the world!

The Golan Heights Winery led the charge in the rebirth of the Israeli wine industry. As the country's third largest winery and producing over 6 million bottles annually, the Golan Heights Winery was named "World Winery of the Year" in 2012 by Wine Enthusiast Magazine.

Sleep Kibbutz Lavi

Day Five

Thursday June 7 - Jordan Valley
(Private Guide & Full Size Bus)

Beit Shean National Park

In the book of Samuel we are told of King Saul's last battle against the Philistines on Mount Gilboa. The captured body of Israel's first king is desecrated and hung on the walls of Beit Shean. After 800 years of conquest, destruction, rebuilding, destruction etc, Beit Shean is rebuilt by the Greeks who rename it Scythopolis, conquered by the Romans, and finally it becomes a major city for the Byzantines. When it was finally destroyed in the earthquake of 749 CE it will never be rebuilt.

Highlights of the park include the Tel with its 20 layers of civilization, the Theater, bathhouse, Cardo, Decamionis.

Sde Eliyahu Bio Bee Kibbutz Tour

Ever wonder what it's like to live on a kibbutz? At Kibbutz Sde Eliyahu we will tour not only one of the last vestiges of authentic kibbutz life in Israel, but also a world leader in organic farming and biological pest control. We will learn about owls, bees, worms, and donkeys as well as various other trailblazing techniques that this kibbutz is using to try to make the world a better and cleaner place. We will finish the tour with a lunch in the *cheder ochel* or communal dining room for a kibbutz lunch!

Kasr Al Yahud - Jordan River

Nearly 3,400 years ago in this very place, the Children of Israel crossed over from the desert into the Land of Israel. 2,000 years ago Jesus met his cousin John the Baptist who was using these holy waters of the Jordan for the purposes of baptising the masses with the *Holy Spirit*. It was in this very place where Jesus was baptised setting him off on a journey that would change the world.

Though the Jordan River is no longer split, only a few dozen feet away lies the modern country of Jordan. Kasr al Yahud was opened to the public in 2011 just across from Jericho on the lush banks of Israel's longest river, the Jordan.

We will have the opportunity for a once in a lifetime rejuvenation of the spirit and rebirth in the holy waters of the Jordan river

Welcome to Jerusalem - Mount Scopus viewpoint

Halleluyah! Welcome to the holiest place on Earth. We will Take in the View that Jesus had upon his ascent from Bethany. The spiritual plateau of the world is here in this most famous and yearned after city. As we enter Jerusalem we will breathe in her beauty from the Mount Scopus Viewpoint and recall the words of the Sages that one "doesn't come to Jerusalem, rather they return to Jerusalem."

Sleep Dan Panorama Hotel

Day Six

Friday June 8 - Jerusalem (Private Guide & Full Size Bus)

City of David

Just outside of the Old City we will explore the ancient city where King David held his capital. Ir David, or the "City of David" as it is known in English, is the actual location of the biblical city of Jerusalem captured by King David over 3,000 years ago. Highlights include entering the secret tunnel leading to the Gihon Spring, walking through Hezekiah's water tunnel, the Pilgrims Ascent from the Shiloach Pool up to "Wall Street" the ancient financial district and shopping area.

Southern Wall Excavations

At the Southwest corner of the Temple Mount lies the excavated ruins of the Second Temple Period, downtown Jerusalem from 2,000 years ago! From here we will be able to recreate in our mind's eye the sites and sounds of a bustling marketplace filled with priests and prophets, rabbis and pilgrims. The archeological gardens are littered with the treasures of the Jewel in the Crown of Jerusalem...the Second Temple. we will walk in the footsteps of Jesus and the disciples on the very streets that they once knew.

The Kotel - Western Wall

If Jerusalem is the heart of the Jewish People then the Temple Mount and its western retaining wall are its soul. After the Temple's destruction 2,000 years ago, the Western Wall or *kotel* is one of its last

remaining walls. Although we only see a fraction of it exposed, it spans over a quarter of a mile and once stood 20 stories high! Although made of limestone, local tradition holds that it is made of the tears and prayers of 2,000 years of Jews yearning for "Next year in Jerusalem." According to Jewish thought the Temple Mount is the holiest place on earth and the entryway to the spiritual world.

Evening Walk - Shabbat at the Western Wall

Friday night is a special time to be in Jerusalem. As the day ends a new day begins - Shabbat, the Jewish sabbath. The Western wall in Jerusalem becomes a unifying place for the Jews as holiness of time and place intertwine. Soldiers and Hassids, tourists and locals, dance arm in arm to welcome the Jewish Sabbath with song and joy. This celebration has no parallel in the world and should not be missed.

Sleep Don Panorama

Day Seven

Saturday June 9 - Region (Private Guide)

Four Quarters Walking Tour

From the Hotel we will ascend on foot to the Old City Via the Jaffa Gate, passing through Jerusalem's oldest and most picturesque neighborhood outside the Old City's walls, Yemin Moshe. Besides being Judaism's **holiest** city, it is a holy city to both Christianity and Islam. Today Jerusalem has four distinct areas colloquially called "the four quarters, the Jewish Quarter, Christian Quarter, Muslim Quarter, and Armenian Quarter. Together we will explore the hidden gems of this holy city, climbing her rooftops, wandering her alleys, and unlocking her secrets.

Christian Quarter

Situated within the narrow alleyways of this ancient city, not only do we have a residential area home to over 5,600 christians and over 40 christian holy sites, but we also have the world's holiest place for Christians! One can explore the Christian Quarter for their entire life and never unlock all of her mysteries.

Church of the Holy Sepulchre

No visit to Jerusalem can be complete without a visit to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Counted amongst the oldest churches in the world, it's one of Jerusalem's most visited spots and for Christians a place of deep religious significance. Although relatively small compared to Europe's churches it houses the spot of the crucifixion, burial, and according to Chirstian tradition, the resurrection of Jesus. For Christian believers this is the most holy spot on Earth.

Jewish Quarter

The Jewish Quarter has had a Jewish presence almost continuously for 2,700 years! Home to nearly 3,300 residents, it combines history, religion, and archeology as well as shops and restaurants, yeshivas and synagogues. Although there is a modern neighborhood on top of these ancient ruins, the stones come to life and whisper the prophecy of Zachariah that "there will once again sit old men and women in the squares of Jerusalem, and the streets will be filled with playing children."

King David's Tomb

How can we visit David's City without paying homage to the King himself? On Mount Zion we will find the traditional burial place of King David. At this holy site it is traditional to recite Psalms which were written by King David

Room of the Last Supper

We are told that the night before the arrest of Jesus, he and his disciples celebrated the Passover holiday in a rented upper room in Jerusalem. It is during this meal that Jesus compares the salvation that he offers with the redemption of the Hebrews from Egyptian bondage. Tradition holds that 50 days later on *pentecost* Jesus will reveal himself to his disciples in this room

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Day Eight

Sunday June 10 - Hebron Hills (Private Guide & Full Size Bus)

Garden Of Gethsemane

On the base of the Mount of Olives sits the Garden of Gethsemane church where on the Night of Passover Jesus was arrested, later to be crucified. Although the current basilica was built in 1924, it sits over two previous churches from the 4th and 12th centuries. At its center is a section of bedrock considered to be the place where Jesus prayed the night of his arrest.

Herodion

2,000 years ago atop a mountain on the edge of the Judean Desert, at the site where he wanted to be buried, King Herod built a summer palace par excellence. Atop this artificial mountain sits an architectural marvel that still inspires wonder today.

We will see the recently excavated and reconstructed site of King Herod's grave, as well as his private palace and theater. In two successive wars with the Romans Jewish rebels commandeered this site and dug escape tunnels as well as a synagogue which stood at the same time as the Second Temple, making it one of the oldest synagogues in the world!

Hebron

3,800 years ago the biblical patriarch Abraham made the first Jewish acquisition of land in the Land of Israel for his descendants. Ever since then, *Mea'arat HaMachpela* or the Tomb of the Patriarchs has been a site of pilgrimage. At the tombs of the matriarchs and patriarchs we will be embraced with holiness and awed by the beauty of this thousands year old shrine.

Visit to West Bank Outpost

On the edge of the Judean desert and biblical village of Tekoa, the hometown of the prophet Amos, a handful of Jews are on a mission to make the desert bloom and revive the wastelands of abandonment. We will meet with expat Texan Ari Abramowitz and have an opportunity to speak with a settler who sees his mission of biblical importance..

Sleep Dan Panorama

Day Nine

Monday June 11 - Dead Sea (Private Guide & Full Size Bus)

Masada

In the year 30 BCE King Herod built here his desert fortress par excellence. Perched on a mesa 450 meters above the Dead Sea yet only 58 meters above sea level, surrounded by a four meter high double wall and steep cliffs, it was thought to be impregnable. Nearly 100 years after it was built the drama unfolded as the most famous battle in Israel; the last stand of the Jews in their Great Revolt against the Romans.

Ein Gedi National Park

We will visit this desert oasis where King David hid from his enemy Saul as recounted in the Bible in the Book of Samuel. Here we can do easy to difficult hikes through the beautiful Judean Desert, periodically stopping to dip in the cold water springs, and cool off under the waterfalls. It's not uncommon while hiking in this nature reserve to see wild ibex drinking from the stream, hyraxes climbing the trees, or eagles soaring overhead.

Dead Sea float

Have you ever wondered what it feels like to be weightless? Here in the lowest place on earth we have the saltiest lake in the world. The water is so dense that it's impossible to sink. The waters of the Dead Sea have been known throughout antiquity to have healing qualities, and a day at the Dead Sea has the power to rejuvenate the skin. The hypersalinity and high mineral content have been shown to be therapeutic for arthritis, psoriasis, eczema, and much much more.

Mitzpe Yericho

Meaning literally, "a viewpoint to Jericho" Mitzpe yericho is a small west bank settlement sitting on a cliff. It is perched more than a thousand feet above one of the oldest cities in the world and the entrance to the Land of Israel from the East. Over 500 families live in this small desert town, but thousands come here to see it's amazing views and Abandoned Israeli Army bunker.

Sleep Don Panorama

Day Ten

Tuesday June 12 - Jerusalem New City
(Private Guide & Full Size Bus)

Yad Vashem - Israel's Holocaust Memorial

Yad Vashem was founded in 1953 as Israel's central holocaust memorial and museum. It's for this reason that, after the Kotel, it is Israel's most visited site. It is here where visitors will hear the story and the meaning of the holocaust within the greater story of the people of Israel and the Land of Israel. All political delegations that come to Israel must come to Yad Vashem to see for themselves what can happen when the Jews don't have a place to call home.

Friends of Zion Museum

Where would the Jewish People and the State of Israel be without our friends around the world? This interactive museum was opened in 2015 dedicated to the heroism and support of Israel's non-Jewish friends and Christian Zionists around the world who had bravely fought for and supported the Jewish People in their monumental fight to return to their homeland and to unfold biblical prophecy.

Israel Museum & Dead Sea Scrolls

Covering an area of over half a million square feet, and strategically situated next to the Knesset, sits Israel's foremost cultural institution...the Israel Museum. This museum houses the largest comprehensive collection of biblical artifacts in it's archeological section, as well as the world's largest collection of Judaica, Jewish art and manuscripts. Besides the famous "ahava" statue and the 20 acre model of Second Temple Jerusalem, the biggest highlight on the premises is the Shrine of the Book, which displays the Dead Sea Scrolls; the oldest biblical manuscripts in the world!

Machane Yehuda Shuk - Jerusalem Market

There are no words to accurately describe the “*shuk*”...one must immerse themselves in the sights, smells, and above all, tastes of Jerusalem's largest outdoor food market. It teems with locals and tourists alike, and is a meeting place for Jerusalemites from all over. Make sure to taste the *chalva*, *techina*, the famous marzipan *rugalach*, and get a fresh Juice from Uzi.

Farewell Dinner - Local Jerusalem Restaurant

Join us for a L’chaim - cheers to a life changing pilgrimage. We will share our feelings and experiences over a unique dining experience at The Eucalyptus. Overlooking Jerusalem’s ramparts Chef Moshe Basson creates a 5 star dining experience offering traditional biblical fare garnished with locally foraged spices and flavored with the seven fruit species that Israel is praised for in the bible.

Sleep Dan Panorama Jerusalem

Day Eleven

Wednesday month date - L’hitraot
(Full Size Bus)

Transfer and Departure

In Israel we dont say goodbye we say *l’hitraot*...that means “see you later”

A representative of our company will bring you to Ben Gurion Airport and streamline your flight check-in and departure. Looking forward to next time!